

## 2017-18 Wrestling SRI Minimum Mat Size and Wrestler Uniform Clarification

All,

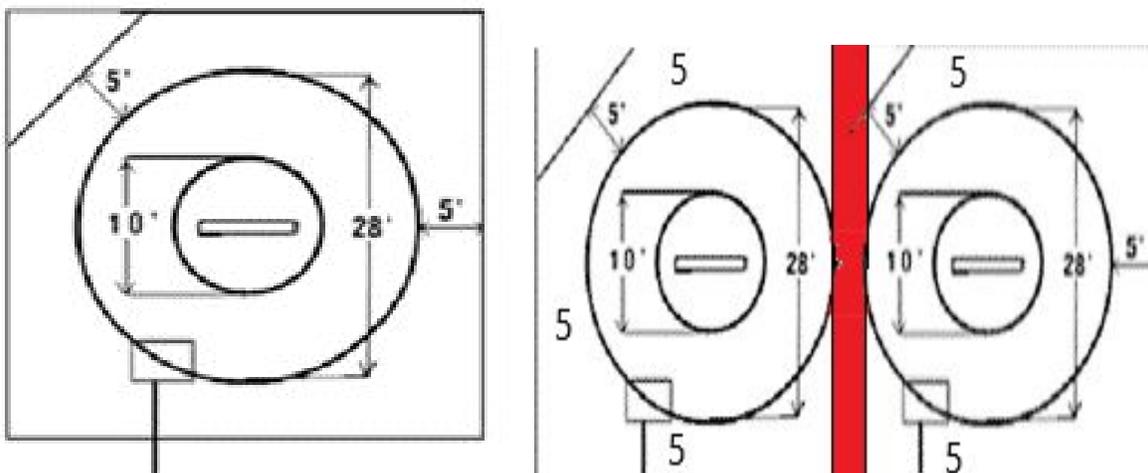
With the new rule change of allowing the defensive wrestler to be Near Failed or Pinned outside the out of bounds line, comes the responsibility of making sure the Minimum Mat Size and Safety Mat are followed.

### Rule 2-1-2

**ART. 2 . . .** The wrestling area of the mat shall be a circular area with a minimum of 28 feet in diameter. Surrounding and secured to the wrestling area of the mat shall be a safety mat area approximately 5 feet wide.

It is the responsibility of all the officials assigned to an event to make sure the wrestling mat and safety area meets the above mentioned rule. No referee will officiate any matches on a wrestling mat that does not meet NFHS Rule 2-1-2. This means we will NOT be “taping off” a mat to create a safety area. If a mat is “taped off” then the circular wrestling area would be less than 28 feet in diameter. Wrestling mats will not “go up the walls” nor will coaches agree to “allow” an illegal wrestling area according to Rule 2-1-2.

Any bleachers, chairs, scorers table, gym or concrete floor, walls, etc, SHALL be a minimum of five(5) feet away from the out of bounds line and separated by a safety mat attached to the wrestling area.



In the above left picture, if a single mat is used at an event, there SHALL be a safety mat attached to the wrestling area as per Rule 2-1-2.

When using multiple mats, at an event where the mats are next to each other, the red safety area in the above right picture can be less than five feet. Surrounding the rest of the wrestling area SHALL be a safety area as per Rule 2-1-2.

## Wrestler Uniform

The new uniform change has seen an increase in illegal manufacturer logo/reference/trademark size and American flag size on school issued wrestling uniforms.

### Rule 4-1-2

**ART. 2 . . .** Any manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference that appears on the wrestling uniform, including legal hair covering can be no more than 2¼ square inches with no dimension more than 2¼ inches and may appear no more than once on each item of uniform apparel.

**NOTE:** One American flag, not to exceed 2 inches by 3 inches, may be worn or occupy space on each item of uniform apparel. By state association adoption, to allow for special occasions, commemorative or memorial patches, not to exceed 4 square inches, may be worn on the uniform without compromising its integrity.

Below are examples of a uniform that have manufacturer's logo/trademark/reference and an American flag that are too big according to NFHS Rule 4-1-2. Also, USA wrestling and their logo are not sponsors of OSAA or NFHS wrestling. Any uniform with this logo is also an illegal uniform.



Beginning immediately, any athlete using a uniform that is non compliant according to rule 4-1-2 will be penalized. The penalty for this is;

## Rule 7-3-5

**ART. 5 . . .** Reporting to the scorer's table, not properly equipped, or not ready to wrestle or any equipment that is detected as being illegal after the match has started is a technical violation.

## Rule 8-1-1

**ART. 1 . . .** Any contestant reporting to the scorer's table not properly equipped or not ready to wrestle is a technical violation. A wrestler with greasy substance on the body or uniform, improper grooming, objectionable pads and braces, illegal equipment, illegal uniform or any equipment that is detected as being illegal after the match has started shall be disqualified if not removed or corrected within the 1½-minute injury time.

There has been plenty of education, past and present, by Rick Wallace and myself, with local uniform suppliers about this rule. If you have an illegal uniform your athlete will not be allowed to compete according to NFHS Rule 8-1-1. If you feel your uniforms do not meet the NFHS Rule 4-1-2, then please contact your uniform supplier to get this issue resolved.

I have also noticed a resurgence in full length tights. Please make sure they also meet the requirements as per NFHS Rule 4-1-1.

**ART. 1 . . .** A legal uniform consists of:

a. a one-piece singlet cut no lower in the back or front than the level of the armpits and under the arms no lower than one-half the distance between the armpit and the belt line. The one-piece singlet may be worn with full-length tights with stirrups. Any other undergarment worn under the one-piece singlet which extends beyond the inseam shall be tight-fitting, a single solid color, unadorned and shall not extend below the knee. The one-piece singlet shall be school-issued.

**NOTE:** Female contestants wearing a one-piece singlet shall wear a suitable undergarment that covers their breasts.

b. compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling shall have a minimum 4-inch inseam that shall not extend below the knee; shorts designed for wrestling shall have an elastic waistband and a drawstring that is not exposed. Compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling shall not have exposed drawstrings, belt loops, zippers, snaps, buttons or pockets. A suitable undergarment, which completely covers the buttocks and groin area, must be worn under shorts designed for wrestling. Shorts designed for wrestling may be worn over the singlet. Compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling may be worn with a form-fitted compression shirt. Compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling shall be school-issued.

c. a form-fitted compression shirt which shall not cover or extend below the elbow and shall have a minimum 3-inch tail; the form-fitted compression shirt may be worn under a singlet or with compression shorts or shorts designed for wrestling. The form-fitted compression shirt shall be school-issued. (Photo 1)

**NOTE:** Female contestants wearing a form-fitted compression shirt shall wear a suitable undergarment that covers their breasts.

Full-length tights with stirrups are acceptable under a one-piece uniform. Any other undergarment that extends beyond the inseam of a one-piece uniform shall be a tight-fitting, single solid color, unadorned and shall not extend below the knee.

Thanks,

Scott Hall  
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State Rule Interpreter